

SCHOOL STAIRWAYS SOURCE OF DANGER

Inflammable Materials Found
Stored Under Wooden
Steps.

Street Entrances for First
Floor Class Rooms
Recommended.

In a report to the District Commissioners on the condition of numerous school houses, which he investigated with reference to their fire protection, Chief William T. Belt, of the Fire Department, calls the attention of the Commissioners to the practice which prevails in some of the schools of maintaining store rooms in which inflammable materials are kept under stairways. In the event of fire, he says, smoke and gases would ascend the stairways immediately, and prevent their use. Especially is this the case with those schools having wooden stairways. The space under these stairways has no fire protection whatever, says Chief Belt, and the steps and the floor of the platforms leading to the main exits are exposed. Fire originating under these stairways would quickly destroy the wooden platforms leading to the exits.

Finds Worthless Hose.

In the Armstrong Manual Training School he found a standpipe system with a hose made of such material and in such condition that it is practically useless. The hose is made of thin linen, and leaks to such an extent that no flow could be obtained from the nozzle. Chief Belt recommends that cotton rubber lined hose be procured and attached to the standpipe as promptly as possible.

In the Ketchikan School it was found that there was a flight of wooden steps inside the main entrance. The assembly hall on the top floor of this building is reached by two flights of wooden steps, each but five feet wide, leading to a wooden platform, and two additional flights of wooden steps. At the bottom of these steps the door leading to the teacher's room, when open, obstructs half the entrance to the north wooden stairway.

He recommends that the wooden steps and platform in this firetrap be replaced by iron or fireproof steps, and that the door be replaced by a double swinging door.

Five Buildings Need Stairways.

"Five buildings, the Magruder, Blake, Garrison, Phelps, and Van Buren, are provided with wooden stairways," says Chief Belt, in his report. "It has been recommended that these wooden stairways be torn out and replaced by iron or fireproof stairways. This is not done the necessary fire-escapes should be placed on these buildings, to insure the escape of the teachers and pupils in event of fire."

Chief Belt recommends that in all school buildings wherever conditions will permit, that the pupils on the first floor be provided with exits leading directly from their school rooms into the open air. Pupils on the first floor particularly kindergarten scholars, have not that promptness of action which is to be expected of older and larger pupils, and are apt to become confused. By providing these extra exits these pupils would be able to escape from the building without using the main hall or stairways, and thus avoid the danger of being knocked down and trampled upon by the pupils on the upper floors in event of fire or panic of any kind.

ANCIENT GOLD COINS TAKEN BY BUCKETS

MILAN, May 9.—A regiment of infantry has been sent to Arica, near Ferrara, to guard the excavation from which so far half a million francs' worth of ancient gold coins has been dug. The military completely surrounds the spot and keeps off adventurers, thieves, and curiosity seekers, who arrive from all parts of the province.

The discoverers of the treasure hoard, the brothers Pozzoli, having agreed to pay the state 25 per cent of the value of the gold and silver recovered, the government is now directing the excavations.

When the laborers digging in the ground first came upon the treasure gold coins were so plentiful as to be scooped up in buckets. Most of them belong to the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries and bear the portrait and stamp of Queen Joan of Naples, who was hanged by the assassin, Charles XII. There are also coins from almost every Italian principality and republic then in existence, including numerous papal coins.

It is assumed that the Adriatic once covered the territory where Arica now stands, and that the treasure hoard was the war chest of some vessel wrecked there.

NEW CHIEF OF ENGINEERS MUST BE CHOSEN SOON

There is much speculation in army circles in Washington as to the successor of Brig. Gen. Alexander Mackenzie as chief of engineers. General Mackenzie will retire for age May 25. Two men are prominently mentioned for the place. They are Col. Thomas W. Symons, who has been in charge of the Erie canal, and Lieut. Col. Smith S. Leach.

Colonel Symons has just been promoted to colonel as a result of the retirement of Colonel Adams; Maj. George A. Zinn has been promoted to lieutenant colonel; Capt. George P. Powell to major; First Lieut. Ernest D. Peck to captain, and Second Lieut. Carlos J. Stolbrand to first lieutenant.

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AMERICAN PENWOMEN ELECT OFFICERS FOR COMING YEAR



MRS. LA SALLE CORBELL PICKETT.

Who Has Been Elected President of the League of American Penwomen.

Reports Are Read at an Annual Meeting Held Here.

At the annual meeting of the League of American Penwomen last week reports of the various officers were presented, after which the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, Mrs. La Salle Corbell Pickett.

First vice president, Miss Elizabeth A. Hyde; second vice president, Mrs. Rachel Tougate Beck; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Edith Kingman Kern; assistant corresponding secretary, Miss Mary E. Torrance; recording secretary, Mrs. J. O. Estabrook; treasurer, Miss Jessie A. Griswold; auditor, Miss Mae Ruth Norcross; librarian, Mrs. Lydia J. Young Withee; historian, Mrs. Annie A. Wilber; reporter, Mrs. Helen H. Gardner.

No change was made in the state representatives.

CENTURY MARK PASSED BY ARCANUM COUNCIL

In honor of crossing the century mark in its growth, Municipal Council of the Royal Arcanum, which is the youngest council of that order in this city, had as its special guests at its meeting Wednesday night, at Pythian Temple, Grand Regent Arthur E. Cook and officers of the grand council, to witness a special class initiation. On invitation of Municipal Council, the degree team of National Council, of this city, was present and conferred the "Gardner degree" on a class of seven candidates, which enabled Municipal Council to pass the century mark. On completion of the degree work, Grand Regent Cook congratulated Municipal Council on its progress, and complimented the degree team of National Council on the impressive manner in which the ritualistic work was conducted. As a mark of esteem, and as a souvenir of the occasion, Grand Regent Cook was presented with a handsome Royal Arcanum button.

The entertainment committee of Municipal Council, A. E. Foster, chairman, presented an attractive program, including an address by Mrs. Edward M. Robinson, of Missouri, on the mission of the ladies' auxiliaries of the Royal Arcanum; an instructive talk on the work of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, by Dr. Glendie B. Young, a member of Municipal Council, and tenor solos by Mr. Roderick. Refreshments were served.

With Grand Regent Cook were Past Grand Regent William W. Chase, Grand Secretary Benjamin White, Grand Chaplain Harry G. Lenz, Grand Guide S. I. Besselevre, Grand Warden G. E. Young, Grand Scribe M. Barlow Mercer, Deputy Grand Regent J. W. Hodges and I. S. Chiles, and Supreme Representative J. Ed Swaine.

**DEATH LURKS AT TOP
OF POLE BOY CLIMBS**

PITTSBURGH, May 9.—Two hundred persons watched Frank, aged eight years, a son of William Naire, of Turtle Creek, struggle to escape from a live wire at the top of a tall telegraph pole. The boy climbed the pole, which is beside the Pennsylvania railroad, a short distance from his home, and when he reached a small platform at the top, where several batteries were placed, he caught a wire and was unable to release himself.

For ten minutes the boy writhed in pain. Two linemen climbed to his assistance, and though he was carried down, he died within half an hour.

WARRANT FOR BOOKKEEPER.

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., May 9.—At Sunbury, Pa., today a warrant for the arrest and a writ for the seizure of the personal property of Francis M. Broome, head bookkeeper for the Sunbury Trust and Safe Deposit Company, were issued, alleging a shortage of \$10,000. Broome disappeared on the afternoon after a bank examiner found discrepancies in his books. He has a wife and six children.

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WISCONSIN GOVERNOR TO BE GUEST OF CLUB

An informal reception and smoker in honor of Gov. James O. Davidson, will be given by the Wisconsin Republican Club at Pythian Temple next Wednesday evening. Invitations have been issued by Secretary L. H. Burton, to all Republicans, natives of Wisconsin, who are now residents of the District of Columbia to attend.

The program and arrangements are in charge of A. E. Cowles, president of the club, and Philip Buetner, chairman of the executive committee. Besides having Governor Davidson as their guest, they also have assurances of having present Charles E. Van Hise, president of the University of Wisconsin; J. Frear, secretary of state; State Senator J. A. Stout, and other prominent men.

Present indications are that every Representative and Senator from Wisconsin in Congress will be present to take part in the program.

COLUMBIA LODGE VISITS BALTIMORE SHIELD OF HONOR

Columbia Lodge, No. 51, Shield of Honor, paid a fraternal visit to Hampden Lodge, of Baltimore, on Saturday, May 2. A banquet of 29 covers was served in their honor. The speech of welcome, was made by Dr. Alvey, past master of Hampden Lodge, and was answered by Past Master Skinner, of Columbia. Speeches were made by Supreme Master J. Le Grand Cole and Past Grand Master Davis, and others.

A special session was preached on Sunday at the Otterbein Memorial Church, by the pastor, the Rev. Charles E. Fultz, a member of Hampden. After dinner the visitors returned home.

ARCH MASONS CONFER DEGREES.

Degrees of past master and most excellent master were conferred on twelve candidates by Mt. Horeb Chapter, No. 12, Royal Arch Masons, in Scottish Rite Hall Friday night. Companion Carey S. Frye conferred the degrees of past master, while the degree of most excellent master was conferred by Companion William A. Kimmel, both of Mt. Horeb Chapter. A large number of Masons witnessed the exercises.

FAMILIAR FACES.

Now here is a joke sent us by a kind friend who anonymously lights our labors. Where have we saw this face before? It seems familiar to us, but we can't place it. Can you? Here it is:

He—What would you do if I'd kiss you?
She—I'd scream for mamma.
He—And what would she do?
She—Nothing—she's stone deaf.
Oh, very well.—Cleveland Leader.

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CENTURY LODGE RECEIVES VISITORS

Grand Officers of the
Pythians Make Spring
Call.

Grand Chancellor C. H. Woodward and his associate grand lodge officers paid their spring visit to Century Lodge, No. 26, at their castle hall, in Pythian Temple, Monday evening. There was a large attendance, and interesting addresses were delivered by Grand Master at Arms Willey, Grand Vice Chancellor Albert Kahler, and Brother S. A. Murdock, of Havana, Ill. Grand Chancellor Woodward, on behalf of the grand lodge, presented to Past Grand Chancellor Day a beautiful past grand chancellor's jewel, suitably engraved. The lodge is presided over by Chancellor Commander M. Stearns, secretary of the Chancellor Commanders' Club.

Decatur Lodge, No. 9, Knights of Pythias, conferred the rank of knight on one Esquire April 28, and the rank of page on May 5.

Syracusan Lodge, No. 10, conferred the rank of esquire on a class of four last Friday, and there was a large attendance.

Washington Company, No. 1, Uniform Rank, is holding weekly drills, to perfect themselves for the coming competitive drills in Boston in August.

The Grand Lodge officers paid their spring visit to Union Lodge, No. 22, in Pythian Temple, Wednesday evening. Addresses were made by Vice Chancellor Rowen, of Amaranth Lodge, No. 25; Past Grand Chancellor T. A. Eynum; Brother Shyly, of William McKinley Lodge, No. 1, of Manila, P. I., and others.

Union Lodge has again been called upon to lay at rest another of its members in the death of Past Grand Chancellor E. C. Gill, sr., who died April 29. The lodge has sustained a heavy loss in the death of this brother.

The Chancellor Commanders' Club held its regular meeting at Pythian Temple, May 1. The club has plans underway for the observation of Memorial Day, which falls on June 16.

The grand chancellor, as chairman of the club, has appointed the following committees:

Program, C. T. Winans, J. D. Rowen, Charles Boyd, R. F. Sroufe, and C. E. McAllister; press and printing, B. A. Sherwood, S. M. Pearson and David Pollock; hall and decorations, C. H. Spear, J. C. Bell and A. J. Sherwood; reception committee, the chancellors and commanders of the various subordinate lodges.

Washington Camp No. 1, and J. T. Coldwell Company, No. 7, of the Uniform Rank, have voted to attend the Uniform Rank Encampment in Boston.

The funeral of Maj. Harry Coggins, the commanding officer of the First Battalion, First Regiment, Uniform Rank, was held Sunday from his residence, 1546 Sixth street northwest, Major Coggins was a member of Excelsior Lodge, No. 14, which took part in a body and performed the Pythian burial service.

WOMAN'S SINGLE TAX CLUB TO ENTERTAIN OKLAHOMANS

The Woman's Single Tax Club will give a banquet next Saturday night at Freund's, 815 Tenth street, in honor of the Oklahoma delegation in Congress.

Preceding the banquet a reception will be held at 7 o'clock, when the guests will be presented to the Senators and Representatives from the newest State in the Union.

PATRIOT ORDER OF AMERICA ENJOYS ANNUAL SUPPER

More than three hundred members and guests assembled at the annual supper given by Camp No. 2, Patriot Order of America, in their hall at Seventh and D streets northwest, last night. A program was presented including recitations by Miss Irene McKown, Miss Lola Ellis, and Miss Lola B. Jenkins.

NEGRO KILLS GATEKEEPER; DEMANDED ADMISSION FEE

AUGUSTA, Ga., May 9.—Because he could not get into a ball ground inclosure at Campana without paying 15 cents admission, Gus Williams, a desperate negro, shot and instantly killed Bob Tillman, the gatekeeper.

Williams endeavored to enter the grounds without paying the usual fee charged, and when it was demanded of him he stepped back about ten feet, pulled a large pistol and deliberately fired. The gatekeeper fell. The ball entered just behind the left ear and Tillman dropped dead.

HIS LUCK.

A citizen who had looked upon the wine when he was no longer sure what color it was, in the course of his journey home encountered a tree protected by an iron tree guard. Grasping the bars, he cautiously felt his way around it twice.

"Curse it!" he moaned, sinking to the ground in despair. "Locked in."—Everybody's Magazine.

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MILLARD CHOSEN BY THE WOODMEN



H. H. MILLARD.

Who Will Represent the District at the National Camp of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Representative to National Gathering Is Head of Talbot Camp.

H. H. Millard was unanimously elected at the District convention Wednesday as the representative of the 1,500 Modern Woodmen of America of the District in the national head camp at Peoria, Ill.

Mr. Millard is now serving his third consecutive year as the presiding officer of A. R. Talbot Camp.

A. R. Talbot Camp met in regular session Thursday night, the degrees were conferred upon three candidates. Arrangements were completed for the officers and degree team to visit Alexandria Camp Wednesday, and exemplify the degree work. The annual excursion of the camp to Chesapeake Beach will take place July 14.

Lincoln Camp in its regular session initiated three candidates. A. E. Chaffee presided, and was assisted in the degree work by Messrs. Van de Bogart, Frantz, Davison, and Mahoney.

BEAR AND BULLDOG TO SHARE COMFORTS

PHILADELPHIA, May 9.—A black bear cub from the northern Adirondacks and a brown English bulldog will live side by side, eating and sleeping together as pets in the rear yard of Mrs. George J. Elliott's home at 495 Woodland avenue, provided that when they meet no scrap takes place.

The bear, which is two months old, was given to Miss Elliott by a friend who was hunting with her father during the last two weeks. She says she will not keep it long, no more than a few months, when it will have grown so big that it will have to be sent back to its native environment. It is to be fed cooled boiled milk and bread, the same as a kitten, till it is about four months old.

When asked if she thought the dog and bear would associate on friendly terms, she replied that there would be a "coldness, but no fight," as the dog would not even look at the bear. When asked why, the answer was: "Oh, the dog is blind."

It is said he sleeps well, and is tame. Young Bruin is a first cousin to the big pet of State Senator E. H. Vare.

IMPROVED DAIRY METHODS DESCRIBED IN REPORT

The report of Clarence B. Lane, assistant chief of the dairy division of the United States Department of Agriculture, has just been published.

The report deals with the rapid strides made by this bureau in the institution of scientific methods of conducting dairy farms, from the care of the stock and their quarters to the transportation of the product with the utmost expediency and cleanliness. According to the report the progress made in gaining the co-operation and assistance of practically all of the larger dairy farms in the United States has been very gratifying.

The pamphlet further says that the smaller concerns also are becoming more and more in favor of the systems suggested by the bureau.

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Elks Planning Barn Dance And Jubilee for Next Month

Make ready for the big show. One thousand Washington Elks have joined their energies and will give another rural jubilee and barn dance at the Benning race course.

The dates scheduled for this event are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, June 16, 17 and 18, and the success attending a similar celebration of the Elks last year promises to be eclipsed by the program which is now being arranged.

The Elks last year gave a circus. This season they promise that Barnum & Bailey will be put on a show. Every inch of the big race course will be utilized for a feature which will be unique. The same principle of secrecy which marks certain affairs in the fraternity is being maintained regarding the various attractions at the "latest and greatest show," but the Elks can be trusted to judge by the results of last year's entertainment—and those who had fun out at the barn dance and jubilee last spring are quite willing to trust to the efficient committees which have the affair in charge.

Officers of the executive committee which has the entertainment directly in charge are Fred J. Mersheimer, chairman; Harvey G. Ellis, secretary, and M. J. McCormick, treasurer. Following are the chairmen of the committees which have been appointed to arrange the details:

Refreshment committee, E. H. Neumeyer, jr.; country store, James M. Dunn; country circus, Lloyd B. Brooke; purchasing and donations, Harry King; reception visiting Elks, Ernest W. Emery; press, Arthur D. Marks; automobile races, F. C. Berens; trotting—mule races, Dr. C. F. Hatfield; printing and badges, James L. Feeney; music, John C. Maxwell; advertising, Frank M. Ferris; carting, Rudolph Riegel; entertainment, Joe Fulkerson; fire and police, William T. Belt; voting contests, Frank B. Clarkson; transportation, J. T. Moffett; dancing, Herman Richards; control of barn, George A. Mason; physician, Dr. W. F. Walter; straw rides, J. William Lee; cash donations, Emil G. Shaffer, finance, M. G. McCormick.

EFFECTS OF SUICIDE PREACHER ARE SOLD

WOODBURY N. J., May 9.—The effects of the late Rev. George W. Tomson, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of this city, were disposed of at public sale Friday afternoon at the manse. There was a big crowd of curious people, but parishioners were few.

Women predominated, and there was some spirited bidding, particularly on the brie-a-brac. An old violin was watched by a strange man, and he was astir when it was put up. The instrument was started at 19 cents, and was finally sold to the stranger for \$2, and he left immediately, chuckling to himself.

Two small cream pitchers of antique design brought \$5. Daniel Mumford being the buyer, but the price was run up by a Euclid street woman. The next article sold brought 2 cents. Three old valves brought 1 cent.

The Rev. Mr. Eagen, the only minister present, paid \$1 for a teapot. There were a number of pictures sold, and these brought the highest kind of prices. Some were of old design, and in the aggregate these brought more than \$100.

Much of the furniture went at low prices. There were a few pieces of antique, but local junk dealers gobbled these up. A great quantity of dishes were sold, and these brought high prices. Carpets sold for a song.

Mrs. Kenworthy who was the dead pastor's fiancée, is at Asbury Park with her daughter.

GRADUATION EXERCISES WILL LAST THREE DAYS

Graduation exercises lasting three days have been planned by the Martha Washington Seminary for its senior class. The formal exercises will open next Friday night with a musicale, and will close on the following Thursday, the reception being held on the Tuesday intervening.

The program follows: Friday evening, May 15, at 8:30 o'clock, recital by pupils of music department; Tuesday evening, May 18, 8 to 10 o'clock, reception to graduating class; Thursday evening, May 21, at 8:30 o'clock, graduation exercises.

NOTHING.

A young lady who had been ill wrote to her fiance in a distant city: "Dear One, your birdie has been very, very sick. It was some sort of nervous trouble, and the doctor said I must think of nothing, absolutely nothing. Dear One, how much I missed you! I thought of you, and now I am well again."

After reading it the young man sat for a long time silent.—Philadelphia Record.

DEANWOOD CITIZENS HEAR ABOUT RAILROAD CROSSING

The Deanwood Citizens' Association held its regular meeting last Wednesday night. James Shepard, president of the association, announced that a communication had been received from the Commissioners that the latter could take no further action about the railroad crossing the property being held by the Pennsylvania and the Baltimore and Ohio railroads ending at Lane place.

The report of the highway committee was presented, and contained the announcement that better light facilities had been provided at Whitman avenue. The committee is composed of A. L. Bagby, J. Lacy, and R. Watson.

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